

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
ETLC 1-018

## LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2013-14)

2013-14/1      SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2013-14/2      PRESENTATIONS

2013-14/3      EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2013-14/4      BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013-14/5      QUESTION PERIOD

2013-14/5b

To Josh Le, VP Operations and Finance from Councillor Binczyk.  
What is the progress on the Events Calendar and how exactly will the calendar contribute to enhancing Council's visibility at campus-wide events?  
What is the progress on the display of council photos in SUB? Will the idea be carried through this year

A: The Events Calendar is on hold since the late summer until the New Year because our Tech Support's time and resources are being focused on solving the iCal server issues which are slated to be complete by the end of December and the regular upkeep and improvement of the other areas of our organization.

I will bring the topic of the Council photo display to CAC for next Council meeting. There are currently no resources allocated in the Council budget for this project, so I want to see if this is a priority for CAC before proceeding. We also need to get the new Councillors' photos too.

2013-14/5c

Q: Questions regarding The Daily Grind neon sign:

A:

- The signage criterion for the main floor of SUB and the food court is exposed neon. This rule applies to SU and external tenants. In order to change the standard, it will be an unforeseen and costly expense for all food court tenants for a low return on investment.
- The power rating/consumption of the sign will draw 10 amps.
- The life expectancy of neon signs range based on power loading, size of the unit, and weather. They may last up to 20 years with minimal maintenance. The only part that might fail is the electronics transformer (like all electronic parts). If there is going to be a problem because one of the units was not made properly, or because of a faulty transformer, it

will typically show up in the first year: but that is covered by the full 1 year warranty.

2013-14/6

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2013-14/6a

**GREHAN/SPEAKMAN MOVE THAT** Students' Council, on the recommendation of the Bylaw Committee, approve Bill #3 in second reading based on the following principle:

1. The deadline for the nomination of candidates in any by-election shall occur not less than 9 days prior to the election.

Please see document LA 13-14.01

2013-14/7

**GENERAL ORDERS**

2013-14/7d

**LE/KUSMU MOVES THAT** Students' Council, on the recommendation of the DIE Board Tribune Selection Committee, appoint Robert (Ryan) Berget, Nicholas Trofimuk, Nakul Bhatia, and Zafir Kanji as DIE Board Tribunes.

2013-14/8

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

2013-14/8j

ERC Summary Report to Council

Please see document LA 13-14.02

2013-14/8k

Brent Kelly, BoG Rep- Report

Please see document LA 13-14.03

2013-14/8l

Comment Regarding Item 2013-14/7c

Please see document LA 13-14.04

2013-14/8m

SCET Summary Report to Council

Please see document LA 13-14.05

expenses, balloting, and penalties apply to a candidate per contested part of the Election and not to the candidate between multiple parts of the Election.

- (2) All other rules concerning nominations, campaign materials, and campaign activities apply per candidate in both coinciding elections.

**15. By-Election - Executive Committee and Board of Governors**

- (1) Where another Election is required by virtue of Section 8(14) or Section 8(15), the new Election shall be conducted.
- (2) The Campaign for the new Election shall begin a minimum of five (5) days prior to the commencement of voting as set out in Section 15(4).
- (3) The nomination deadline for the new Election shall occur a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the commencement of voting as set out in Section 15(4).
- (4) The voting for the new Election shall occur on two (2) consecutive weekdays to be determined and announced by the C.R.O. at least twenty-one (21) days in advance.

**16. By-Election – General Faculties Council and Students’ Council**

- (1) Where vacancies exist in positions filled under this bylaw on August 15 of any year, the C.R.O. shall call a by-election to take place in September or October of that year for all those positions vacant on August 15.
- (2) Where the total voting membership of Students’ Council falls below twenty-three, the C.R.O. shall call a by-election to occur
  - a. not more than one month past the date that the voting membership of Students’ Council fell below twenty-three; or
  - b. where Students’ Council’s voting membership falls below twenty-three during the months of May, June, July, or August, in September.
- (3) Except as otherwise stipulated in this bylaw, there shall be no by-elections to fill positions filled under this bylaw.
- (4) The deadline for the nomination of candidates in any by-election shall be determined and announced by the C.R.O. at the same time as the date of the by-election is announced, such deadline occurring not less than ~~eleven~~ ~~(11)~~ nine (9) days prior to the Election.
- (5) The commencement of the Campaign for any by-election shall be determined and announced by the C.R.O. at the same time as the date of the by-election is announced, such commencement occurring not less than five (5) days prior to the Election.



# ELECTIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

| <b>Motions</b>                             |   |                         |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| 1.   | <i>MORRIS</i> moved to <i>approve the minutes for October 30, 2013 as tabled.</i>   | <i>CARRIED</i><br>2/0/1 |
| 2.   | <i>SPEAKMAN</i> moved that <i>Elections Review Committee (ERC) recommends council to hear ERC's presentation about the election survey.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i><br>3/0/0 |
| 3.   | <i>SPEAKMAN</i> moved to <i>adjourn the meeting.</i>  | <i>CARRIED</i><br>3/0/0 |
| <i>Date: November 13<sup>th</sup> 2013</i> |   | <i>Time: 3.24 pm</i>    |
|  |   | 2013 – 2014             |

November 18th, 2013

**To:** Students' Council

**Re:** Report to Council

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Hey Council,

Before I proceed with my report, I would like to acknowledge that our university and our Students' Union are on Indigenous land. Specifically: Cree, Saulteaux, Metis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Siou. They are faculty, staff, students, family, and friends, and they are still here. I acknowledge that we meet on treaty 6 territory. That treaty governs the relationship between first-nations and non-first nations citizens. I am thankful for this opportunity for us to meet on this land today. This statement will be included at the front of my report to council until either the time that my term ends, or Council moves to makes a similar statement available for public viewing.

It's been an interesting few weeks for Universities here in Alberta. On November 6<sup>th</sup> we received a small bit of good news – Minister Lukaszuk had decided to restore \$50 million in provincial funding to post-secondary education, \$14.4 million of which is earmarked for the University of Alberta. However VP Woods among others pointed out that these funds will not prevent or reverse most of the damage from previous cuts. Nevertheless this is a step in the right direction, and is hopefully indicative of a change in mindset in Minister Lukaszuk.

Despite this, the decision to reinvest \$50 million leaves us with more questions than answers. First of all, how can our administration function effectively when funds are being added and removed in such a manner? Universities are massive organizations, and it's impossible to change their direction in the drop of a hat. Which further begs the question: in addition to the outright cuts, how much university money and energy has the budget debacle sucked away?

Second, how has this budget instability negatively affected the University's reputation as an academic institution? Financial and institutional stability need to be rock solid if we're trying to recruit top academic

talent. Unfortunately, financial stability is not something universities can take for granted in this province.

The Province's behaviour does not, I think, inspire feelings of confidence in students thinking of going to a post-secondary institution in Alberta.

On the one hand, however, this crisis does bring attention to an issue that is critical to the University of Alberta: funding source diversification. The U of A is, admittedly, heavily reliant on provincial grants to maintain its operation. To her credit, President Saramasakera has made funding diversification a top priority. For example University Advancement has seen significant growth, and initiatives such as the recently unveiled Dino 101 MOOC appear promising. Nevertheless, as it stands the University faces an ever-more uncertain financial future so long as the Province doesn't take further action to restore funding and offset the current structural deficit.

Changing topics, I've had further correspondence with former Councillor Carson regarding the statement acknowledging Indigenous territory. We've set a meeting for later this week to discuss general strategies for how we should go about getting a well-researched and well-informed statement. As always, I'll have more updates for you as we move forward.

Next week I'll attend a meeting of the General Faculties Council and a dinner with the other members of the Board. I'm very eager to discuss some of these recent developments with the Board – especially the reinvestment. Heretofore the news of reinvestment has been received quite warmly by the Members. However as the shine from the initial announcement wears off, I suspect the Members will remember that our University remains in a very tough situation.

In Solidarity,

**Brent Kelly**

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2013-2014 | [University of Alberta Students' Union](#)  
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## Comment Regarding Item 2013-14/7c

Marc Dumouchel, General Manager  
19 November 2103

Councilors:

It was a surprise to me to see this motion on the Agenda, as Councilor Mohamed and Board Member Kelly did not advise me in advance that they were bringing it forward. Had they done so, I would have noted a number of concerns and observations that I have:

1. The room in question is currently being held for emergency storage requirements related to the renovation. While we do not know that we will need it, given that some items and furnishing may arrive out-of-sequence with the construction process, and given that our main storage area (the Bear Pit) will see some construction within it, we would prefer to keep our options open for short-term storage. *There is currently no other free storage space in SUB.*
2. The room is ultimately intended to form part of the Student Council suite, to provide a private space for a small number of Councilors to meet while leaving the larger area open for use by other Councilors. It is not intended for SU staff, and never has been. It was programmed and designed to function that way, and I fear inadvertently losing that original intent. (I would be very comfortable with opening the room now for Councilor use – in fact, that it hasn't been is an oversight that will be rectified when our building manager returns from vacation.)
3. While the motion is time-limited, my experience leads me to expect that removing WUSC storage at a later time will become a much bigger issue than is expected. If WUSC has an issue with storage, is that issue going to go away next year? Why? If not, should a longer-term solution not be sought now?
4. My most significant reservations are related to process issues.
  - That we treat all external groups fairly and equitably is very important to the Students' Union, and to me personally. That implies some kind of process or evaluation rubric for assigning resources such as space. I see no indication of such a process being applied here.
  - Many student groups have been forced to find temporary storage because of the renovation. What is the rationale for favoring WUSC in this matter? While I understand they are a DFU, there are also a number of other groups that have just as pressing a need and that do just as much or more for life on campus.
  - Does Students' Council want to get into the minutiae of managing table bookings, student group office assignments, or other matters? I ask

because I think that having Council deal with this kind of administrative issue will only invite anyone who has a need to bypass the systems and procedures we have in place and take their concerns directly to Students' Council. I do not think this would be productive for Students' Council nor result in a more fair allocation of our limited resources.

5. Fundamentally: If Council wants to allocate out the space in question, it can. I think it would set a poor precedent, however - Council's focus should be on big-picture policy direction, not making specific administrative decisions - and would be perceived as favoring a particular group over others.

That all said, it is Students' Council's responsibility to provide guidance to the Executive and administration of the Students' Union, and I look forward to receiving direction in this matter.



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: November 14<sup>th</sup> 2013

Time: 6.09 pm

2013 – 2014

## Motions

|    |   |                          |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 1  | <i>BINCZYK moved to move the presentation “Addressing the gap in SC’s presence between the Orientation and Elections”, below the one titled “International Students’ Association”, in the agenda.</i> | <i>CARRIED<br/>6/0/0</i> |
| 2. | <i>BINCZYK moved to approve the agenda for November 14, 2013 as amended.</i>  | <i>CARRIED<br/>6/0/0</i> |
| 3. | <i>KUSMU moved to approve the minutes for October 31, 2013 as amended.</i>  | <i>CARRIED<br/>5/0/1</i> |
| 4. | <i>BINCZYK moved to adjourn the meeting.</i>  | <i>CARRIED<br/>7/0/0</i> |